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but it gives the literary and historical associations of Derbyshire, and thus supplies the human interest that adds so much to the enjoyment of travel. Others may describe the country town of Ashbourne, one of the pleasantest in England. But Ashbourne not only stands at the gate of exquisite scenery ; it is also filled with the memories of great men. The book tells, for instance, of Dr. Samuel Johnson, who used to spend his holidays here with his lifelong friend Dr. Taylor, whose house is still the best private residence in the town. Dr. Taylor seems to have been a sly humourist; and we read that once when he expected the Duke of Devonshire to dine with him, "he gave orders that his Grace was to be driven twice round the grounds, so that he might imagine the garden was twice its real size."

The little town, also, has reminiscences of Tom Moore, of Samuel Rogers the banker-poet, and others. This was George Eliot's country, and those who wish to identify the places named in *Adam Bede* will not err, says Mr. Firth, if they interpret Oakbourne as Ashbourne, Snowfield as Wirksworth, Eagledale as Dovedale, Norbourne as Norbury.

It was in Derbyshire that Jean Jacques Rousseau began to write his famous *Confessions*. The wealth of reminiscence and anecdote concerning many interesting people will be appreciated most of all by those who visit England. The illustrations add greatly to the book.

Wirtschaftliche, naturgeschichtliche und klimatologische Abhandlungen aus Paraguay. Von H. Mangels. viii and 364 pp. and Illustrations from Photographs. Verlagsanstalt Dr. Fr. p. Datterer & Cie, Munich, 1904. (Price, M. 6.75.)

A number of German settlers in Paraguay undertook, in 1894, the publication of a weekly journal, *Paraguay Rundschau*, in the German language, in order to disseminate accurate information about the country. This journal still appears regularly in enlarged and improved form, and it is deservedly prized by all who are especially interested in the colonization of Paraguay and the development of its agricultural resources and commerce. Among the friends who contributed largely to its columns, though it could not afford to pay them for their work, was the author of this volume, long the German Consul at Asuncion.

The book is made up of the articles, revised and brought up to date, which Mr. Mangels originally wrote for the *Rundschau*. They are based upon his long experience and studies in the country, and bring together a large variety of information not yet easy to find ; for the literature relating to the geography and development of Paraguay is not yet rich.

A chapter is given to agriculture and colonization in Spanish South America and the various colonial undertakings in Paraguay, and in others the climate, soils, economic plants, most important forest trees, crops, rubber-planting, poisonous and other obnoxious plants, fertilizers, and many other topics are treated. These contributions make a desirable volume.

La Picardie et les Regions voisines : Artois, Cambrésis, Beauvaisis. Par Albert Demangeon. 496 pp., 34 half-tone Illustrations, 50 Maps, and Bibliography. Librairie Armand Colin, Paris, 1905. (Price, 12 frs.)

A geographical study of the Picardy Plain, in northeast France. Picardy, with the neighbouring regions, forms a geographic entity facing areas on all sides that are topographically distant from it. Its aspect seldom varies, for throughout the plain are found about the same relief—rivers, soils, fields, and villages. But if the plain